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REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed on July 25, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. Claims 1-7, 9-10, 12-19, 21-22 and 25-35 are now pending in this Application. Claim 1, 13, 25 and 29 are independent claims and the remaining claims are dependent claims. In this Amendment, claims 32-35 have been amended, claims 8, 11, 20 and 23 have been cancelled and claims 32-35 have been added. A version of the claims containing markings to show the changes made is included hereinabove. Applicants believe that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance. A notice to this affect is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-23 and 25-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,951,652 to Ingrassia Jr, et al. (hereinafter Ingrassia) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,230,171 to Pacifici et al. (hereinafter Pacifici).

Ingrassia discloses a data element synchronization mechanism. Ingrassia discloses at column 5, lines 39-49 that each browser on a respective terminal forwards data activities regarding data inputs and data field updates on web pages being displayed by a respective browser, sending the data activities to a server and receiving the data activities of other browsers for the web pages being displayed by a respective browsers. Ingrassia does not disclose or suggest the setting of a document property of each document contained in the browser to a common value.

Pacifici discloses a mark-up system for shared HTML documents. Pacifici inserts a Javascript function implementing a mark-up system which is then invoked inside every shared document displayed by a browser. Pacifici does not disclose or suggest the setting of a document property of each document contained in the browser to a common value.

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In contrast to Ingrassia and Pacifici, claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitations of claims 8 and 11, namely that in response to detecting the intent to initiate a collaboration session, the method performs the step of setting a document property of each document contained in the browser to a common value. In the rejection of claim 11, the Examiner stated that Ingrassia teaches setting a document property of each document contained in a browser to a common value in response to detecting the intent to initiate a collaboration session in Figure 9 and at column 12, lines 44-48. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's statement. Ingrassia discloses a web page wherein an Applet displays a current session ID. Thus, in Ingrassia an applet displays a session ID on a web page. The session ID may arguably be a web page property, but cannot be considered a document property. There is no mention of a document or a document property that is being set or that a document property of each document is set to a common value. Therefore, since neither Ingrassia nor Pacifici, taken alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the setting of a document property of each document contained in the browser to a common value claim 1 is believed allowable over Ingrassia and Pacifici.

Claims 13, 25 and 29 have been amended in a similar manner as claim 1, and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Claims 8, 11, 20 and 23 have been cancelled. Claims 2-7, 9-10, 12, 14-19, 21-22, 26-28 and 30-31 depend from claims 1, 13 25 or 29 and are believed allowable as they depend from a base claim which is believed allowable.

Newly added claims

Claims 32-35 have been added. Support for these claims can be found in the specification at page 18, lines 10-22 and at page 24, lines 16-26.

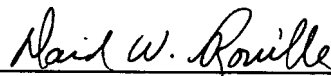
In view of the above, the Examiner's rejections are believed to have been overcome placing claims 1-7, 9-10, 12-19, 21-22, and 25-35 in condition for allowance and reconsideration and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

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If the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office deems a fee necessary, this fee may be charged to the account of the undersigned, Deposit Account No. 50-0901.

If the enclosed papers or fees are considered incomplete, the Patent Office is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (508) 366-9600, in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,



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